

Message Text

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14

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W
----- 061294

R 300527 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8199

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

S E C R E T TAIPEI 1932

EXDIS

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MG, TW, CH

SUBJECT: ROC REACTION TO US- MPR DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

REFS: A) TAIPEI 1919 B) STATE 57054

1. WE RECOGNIZE THE IMPRACTICABILITY OF, AND DO NOT ENDORSE, FONMIN SHEN' S REQUEST THAT WE DESIST FROM, OR AT LEAST DELAY, OUR RECOGNITION OF THE MONGOLIAN PEOPLE' S REPUBLIC.

2. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT US RECOGNITION OF THE MPR WILL HAVE AN ADVERSE EFFECT ON THE ROC WHICH IS ALREADY BRUISED BY INTERNATIONAL EVENTS. IF IT WERE NOT FOR THE OLDER GENERATION OF MAINLANDERS, WE BELIEVE THAT THE REACTION WOULD BE LIMITED TO A FEELING OF GENERAL DISCOMFORT THAT THE US HAD TAKEN A FURTHER STEP IN APPARENT DISREGARD OF THE ROC' S SPECIAL INTERESTS. HOWEVER, GIVEN THE INFLUENCE OF OWEER MAINLAND ELEMENTS IN THE GOVERNMENT, PARTY, AND PRESS, THE ROC MAY INFLATE THE MONGOLIAN ISSUE IN THE MINDS OF ITS OWN PEOPLE AND THUS INFLECT AN UNNECESSARY DEGREE OF DAMAGE. THIS PROCESS OF OVER- REACTION WAS TO SOME EXTENT REFLECTED IN FONMIN SHEN' S REACTIONS DURING DISCUSSION WITH THE AMBASSADOR.

3. THE ONE MAN FOR WHOM THE NEWS WILL COME AS A SEVERE BLOW IS PRESIDENT CHIANG. CONCEIVABLY THE PREMIER WILL WITHHOLD THE NEWS FROM HIS FATHER AS LONG AS HE CAN BUT
SECRET

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WE MUST ASSUME THAT HE WILL HAVE TO TELL HIM AT SOME POINT. WHEN HE DOES, IT WILL COME AS A SHOCK AND HURT

DEEPLY. IT MIGHT BE WELL TO CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF
A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT TO THE GIMO EXPLAINING THE
CONTEXT OF OUR ACTION AND REITERATING THE ASSURANCES
CONTAINED IN PARA 2 REF B.
MCCONAUGHY

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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